

SPARTA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Sparta, WI 54656

Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
March 23, 2010  
Administrative and Educational Center

Board of Education Present: Ms. Theresa Burns-Gilbert, Mrs. Joan Cook, Mr. Lee Culpitt, Mrs. Janet Horstman, Mr. Wayne Jenkins, Mr. Gary Kirking, and Mr. Paul Solberg

The meeting was called to order by president, Mr. Jenkins at 7:05 p.m. The meeting had been noticed with Monroe County Publishers, WCOW Radio, Magnum Radio, and the La Crosse Tribune. A motion was made by Mr. Kirking, seconded by Ms. Burns-Gilbert to adopt the revised agenda as presented. Motion carried, 7-0.

A commendation was presented by Mr. Hendricks to the Honorable Judge Michael McAlpine for his many years of dedicated service to the youth of Monroe County.

A motion was made by Mr. Solberg, seconded by Mrs. Cook to approve the following Consent Items removing Ms. Melissa Brooks from the Employment Issues:

- approve the minutes of the February 23, 2010 and March 11, 2010 Board of Education Meetings
- approve the bills for the 2009-2010 school year as presented for the period  
February 23, 2010 – March 18, 2010 in the amount of \$1,459,910.48.
- Employment Issues

**Employment:**

Mr. Chris Novak – Baseball Assistant Coach – Level I	\$2, 067.00
Mr. Tyler Burmeister – Baseball Assistant Coach Level III	\$ 1,378.00
Ms. Emily Pearse – Vocal Solo Ensemble – High School	\$ 551.00
Mr. Tom Anderson – Track – 1/3 Coach Position	\$ 632.00
Mr. Scott Zurfluh – Middle School Track Assistant Coach	\$ 1,309.00
Ms. Sara Angle – Middle School Softball Coach	\$ 1,550.00

**Resignations**

Ms. Lori Drake – Nutrition Services effective March 10, 2010  
Mr. Tom Anderson – Middle School Track Assistant Coach

**Retirements:**

Ms. Marjean Breunig, Grade 6 teacher effective June 30, 2010 22 years of service  
Ms. Agnes Haun – Nutrition Services – 4 years of service

**Committee Recommendations**

- approve the concept of replacing some fencing at Lakeview Montessori Charter School.
- approve the Change in Payment Addendum with EOJohnson for the exchange of 5 copiers, increase in base copies per month, and Papercut software as presented.
- approve a contract with Applied Population Laboratory to do a basic enrollment projection study and attendance by location report at a cost of \$3800.00 to replace the previous door-to-door census procedure.
- approve Board Policy Article 177 – Fraudulent Actions as presented
- approve the Youth Option Requests for Fall 2010 as recommended by the administration
- change the Middle School football program to an intramural format as presented
- approve the SAILS Charter Contract revisions as amended

- approve the appointment of Mr. Tom Smith and Col. Mike Maclaren to the SAILS Board replacing Mr. John Hendricks and Ms. Theresa Burns-Gilbert
- approve revisions to Board Policy Article 305 – Compensatory Time Off and Overtime
- approve an unpaid leave request (Seipel) for up to 3 unpaid days plus available personal days between March 29-April 8, 2010

Roll call vote: Ms. Burns-Gilbert-aye, Mrs. Cook-aye, Mr. Culpitt-aye, Mrs. Horstman-aye, Mr. Jenkins-aye, Mr. Kirking-aye, and Mr. Solberg-aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

The following people provided comments on the proposed budget reductions during the Public Input Session:

Representative Mark Radcliffe – Cataract School closure  
Laura Veglahn - English position  
Carla O'Rourke - mileage reimbursement  
Kim Callahan - Cataract teaching position  
Mark Byom - HS Science teaching position  
Amy Berz - Secretarial reduction  
Randy Berz - Reduction recommendations  
Pat Thibodeau - HS Tech Ed teaching position  
Julie Ender - Budget Reductions  
Jim Leverich - Reduction recommendations  
Barb Moorhead - K-3 MAPE reduction  
Karen Jankowski - K-3 MAPE reduction  
Karen Wall - Home/School Liaison position  
Althea Stanley - Home/School Liaison position  
Carla O'Rourke - Home/School Liaison position  
Lisa Schell - PK teacher position  
Kristi Sagehorn - PK teacher position  
Missy Erickson - PK teacher position  
Kevin Cox - Agriculture teacher position  
Steve Schauf - Agriculture teacher position  
Corey Ronke - Agriculture teacher position  
J. Wells - Agriculture teacher position  
Arlene Sprague - Cataract School closure  
Julie Stuessel - Cataract School closure  
Janet Parent - Cataract School closure  
Liz Zeps - Cataract School closure  
Judy Herr - Cataract School closure  
Bethany Ahnen - Cataract School closure  
Kathryn Konze - Cataract School closure  
Karl Merow - Cataract School closure and Agriculture teacher position

The order of the agenda was revised with Item F being discussed following the public comments. Mr. Jenkins explained a budget reduction committee was formed to review over 100 ideas that were presented, paring down the list and providing the recommendations that are being considered.

A motion was made by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Mrs. Horstman to open discussion on the budget reduction items 1,3,4,5,9,10,11,12,21,and 23. Motion carried, 7-0.

After a brief explanation of the items being considered for reduction, a motion was made by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Mr. Solberg to approve the following items for reduction of the 2010-2011 budget:

#1 Differentiation Coaches (7)	\$ 10,000.00
#3 Better paper control	\$ 1,750.00
#4 Reduce .5 FTE special education teacher at Intermediate	\$ 35,000.00
#5 Crowd Control 10%	\$ 3,700.00
#9 Stop printing check stubs	\$ 1,500.00
#10 Incorporate deficit budgeting into proposed budget	\$100,000.00
#11 Cut summer custodial hours from 1 HS custodian	\$ 9,500.00
#12 Revise census collection eliminating door-to-door process	\$ 3,000.00
#21 Reduction of a teacher at High Point	\$ 70,000.00
#23 Reduction of .5 FTE teacher at Maplewood	\$ 35,000.00
Total	\$269,450.00

Roll call vote: Mrs. Cook-aye, Mr. Culpitt-aye, Mrs. Horstman-aye, Mr. Jenkins-aye, Mr. Kirking-aye, Mr. Solberg-aye, Ms. Burns-Gilbert-aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

Additional information requested included:

- additional cuts (10-15%) to be considered for item #5
- #20 Option 3 is \$70,000
- cost to the district for the police liaison position and its effect on revenue controls
- MAPE schedule combining 1.5 classes (22-23 students)
- class size numbers are determined by current registrations (changes are expected)

Budget reductions totaling \$585,000 is the target for 2010-2011. This figure does not include the deficit budgeting amount of \$100,000.00. A special meeting will be held on April 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the remaining 20 proposed reductions.

A motion was made by Mr. Solberg, seconded by Mrs. Cook to pull consideration of the Cataract School closure off the budget reduction list for 2010-2011, and formulation of a committee to study the closure and the implications such closure will have on the district.

Roll call vote: Mr. Culpitt-aye, Mrs. Horstman-aye, Mr. Jenkins-no, Mr. Kirking-no, Mr. Solberg-aye, Ms. Burns-Gilbert-aye, and Mrs. Cook-aye. Motion carried, 5-2.

The Board was reminded of the impact their budget reduction decisions could have on the current mission and goals statement.

A motion was made by Mr. Solberg, seconded by Mrs. Horstman to approve the supplemental bills in the amount of \$324,028.05 as presented. Roll call vote: Mrs. Horstman-aye, Mr. Jenkins-aye, Mr. Kirking-aye, Mr. Solberg-aye, Ms. Burns-Gilbert-aye, Mrs. Cook-aye, and Mr. Culpitt-aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

All items from the Finance and Facilities Committee and the Personnel and Educational Initiatives Committee were covered under the Consent Items.

A motion was made by Mr. Solberg, seconded by Mr. Culpitt to accept the DPI Fellowship Grant in the amount of \$9530.00 for 5 Maplewood teachers to travel to Costa Rica for a biomes project, a grant from the Eagles Club to cover expenses for 4th grade travel to nursing homes,

and a donation to the school district from Representative Mark Radcliffe in excess of \$1,000.00. Motion carried, 7-0.

The meeting schedule for April was determined as follows:

April 6-7 5:30 p.m. Interviews for Lawrence-Lawson Principal/High School Assistant Principal

There is an opening for an additional board member to be involved in this process.

April 7 4:00 p.m. Official canvass of election

April 13 5:00 p.m. Finance and Facilities Committee

April 13 6:30 p.m. Personnel and Educational Initiatives Committee

April 15 7:00 p.m. Special Board of Education Meeting

April 27 7:00 p.m. Regular Board of Education Meeting

At 9:40 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Horstman, seconded by Ms. Burns-Gilbert to move to executive session to discuss and consider an early retirement Memorandum of Understanding as per Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility and consideration of an early retirement request as per Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Roll call vote: Mr. Jenkins-aye, Mr. Kirking-aye, Mr. Solberg-aye, Ms. Burns-Gilbert-aye, Mrs. Cook-aye, Mr. Culpitt-aye, and Mrs. Horstman-aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

A motion was made by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Mr. Solberg to deny a request for an early retirement Memorandum of Understanding . Roll call vote: Mr. Kirking-aye, Mr. Solberg-aye, Ms. Burns-Gilbert-aye, Mrs. Cook-aye, Mr. Culpitt-aye, Mrs. Horstman-aye, and Mr. Jenkins-aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Solberg, seconded by Mrs. Horstman to deny a request for an exception to the SEA Early Retirement Sidebar Agreement for 2009-2010. Roll call vote: Mr. Solberg-aye, Ms. Burns-Gilbert, Mrs. Cook-aye, Mr. Culpitt-aye, Mrs. Horstman-aye, Mr. Jenkins-aye, Mr. Kirking-aye and Mr. Solberg -aye. Motion carried, 7-0.

At 10:15 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Solberg, seconded by Mrs. Horstman to return to open session and adjourn. Motion carried, 7-0.

Secretary Pro Tem  
Connie Baumbach

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Date

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Signed